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PATENT
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Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of copying digital data representative of audio and/or video content from a source of digital data onto a medium, said method comprising the steps of:

formatting the digital data from said source of digital data using a function based on at least a serial number contained in said medium, to thereby prevent bit by bit duplication of the digital data onto another medium; and
recording said formatted data onto said medium.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the serial number is recorded on the medium during manufacture of the medium.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the serial number is a unique number for each medium.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of formatting the digital data to be duplicated is carried out using a secret-key encryption algorithm or a public-key algorithm.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the encryption algorithm uses an encryption key that is dependent on the serial number.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the encryption key is furthermore dependent on a secret parameter contained in a reading device adapted for reading the digital data arising from said source.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of copying digital data representative of audio and/or video content onto a medium, wherein the medium comprises a serial number the method comprising the following steps:

sending the serial number recorded on the medium to a reading device;
formatting the digital data read with the aid of the serial number, to thereby prevent bit by bit duplication of the digital data onto another medium; and
recording on said medium the formatted digital data.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the formatting step is carried out in the reading device.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the reading device comprises means for reading the medium containing the formatted digital data.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising before performing the duplication of the digital data, a step of checking authorization to copy.

11. (Currently Amended) A reading device allowing the implementation of a method of copying according to claim 1 for reading digital data representative of audio and/or video content and for formatting the digital data to be copied onto a medium, wherein the reading device comprises a formatting circuit adapted for receiving the a serial number of the contained in said medium onto which the digital data are to be copied and providing as output, formatted data which are dependent on said serial number and are intended to be copied onto said medium.

12. (Currently Amended) A recording medium for digital data representative of audio and/or video content comprising a serial number which is unique, wherein the recording medium further comprises recorded digital data formatted as a function of said serial number and of a secret parameter.